

PATENT

J1033 U.S. PTO  
09/839759  
04/20/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Pironti et al

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No.: Unassigned

Group Art: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

Docket: 1085-2

For: ETHANE EXTRACTION PROCESS  
FOR A HYDROCARBON GAS STREAM

Date April 20, 2001 Label No. EJ094851018US  
I hereby certify that on the date indicated above I  
deposited this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service  
and that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant  
Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 by  
"EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE to ADDRESSEE " service.

Barbara Kemmelein  
Name (Print)

(Signature)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In fulfillment of the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56,  
Applicant submits herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with  
the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and 1.98.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application and before  
the issuance of the first Office Action, no fee is deemed necessary.

## I. U.S. PATENTS

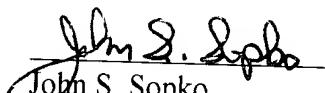
<u>U.S. PATENT NO.</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>ISSUE DATE</u>
4,278,457 to Campbell et al.	Hydrocarbon Gas Processing	July 14, 1981
4,597,788 to Apffel	Process for Recovering Ethane, Propane and Heavier Hydrocarbons from a Natural Gas Stream	July 1, 1986
4,687,499 to Aghili	Process for Separating Hydrocarbon Gas Constituents	August 18, 1987
4,689,063 to Paradowski et al.	Process of Fractionating Gas Feeds and Apparatus for Carrying Out the Said Process	August 25, 1987
4,851,020 to Montgomery, IV	Ethane Recovery System	July 25, 1989
4,869,740 to Campbell et al.	Hydrocarbon Gas Processing	September 26, 1989
5,275,005 to Campbell et al.	Gas Processing	January 4, 1994
5,568,737 to Campbell et al.	Hydrocarbon Gas Processing	October 29, 1996
5,588,306 to Schmidt	Process for Obtaining an Ethane-Rich Fraction for Refilling an Ethane- Containing Refrigerant Circuit of a Process for Liquefaction of a Hydrocarbon-Rich Fraction	December 31, 1996
5,890,377 to Foglietta	Hydrocarbon Gas Separation Process	April 6, 1999
5,953,935 to Sorensen	Ethane Recovery Process	September 21, 1999

Copies of each of these references are attached herewith. All of the references listed above are also listed on Applicant's Substitute Form PTO-1449 which is attached to this Information Disclosure Statement for the convenience of the Examiner.

The precise relevance of the references cited in the foreign search report are not known apart from having been cited in the search report in the corresponding priority application.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John S. Sopko  
Registration No. 41,321  
Attorney for Applicants

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP  
6900 Jericho Turnpike  
Syosset, New York 11791  
(973) 331-1700